

### Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A rubber crawler track, comprising:

a rubber crawler body shaped as an endless belt made of a rubber elastic body;

a layer comprising a plurality ~~majority~~ of steel cords embedded in said rubber crawler body;

and

metal cores ~~core metals~~ embedded in said rubber crawler body at a fixed interval in a crawler circumferential direction, each of said metal cores ~~core metals~~ comprising[[:]]

an engaging portion formed at the center in of a ~~core~~ metal core length direction;

guide protrusions for preventing wheel run-off;

wing portions, said guide protrusions and said wing portions each being formed at opposite ~~both~~ sides of the engaging portion; and

horizontal protrusions formed on ~~to sides~~ ~~side planes~~ of the ~~core~~ metal core in a width direction of the metal cores on at least one of opposite ~~the both~~ sides of said engaging portion ~~where are~~ within the a thickness of the wing portion in the a ~~core~~ metal core vertical direction and an area on the tread ~~of anti-tread side portion~~ below ~~than~~ the thickness, said horizontal protrusions facing ~~between~~ adjacent metal cores ~~core metals~~ in the crawler circumferential direction and overlapping the horizontal protrusions of adjacent metal cores within a fixed length of the ends of the horizontal protrusions ~~their~~ ends in a crawler width direction and in a crawler thickness direction[[:]],

wherein a distance "r" in the crawler circumferential direction between the ends of the horizontal protrusions and adjacent metal cores is expressed as  $\Delta r \leq r \leq 2 \Delta r$  when the rubber crawler track is horizontal, wherein  $\Delta r = 2 \pi h / n$ , wherein "h" is the distance from the layer of steel cords to portions of the horizontal protrusions that contact one another when the crawler track is

wound around a sprocket, and “n” is the number of teeth of the sprocket for engaging the rubber crawler track.

2. (Currently amended) A rubber crawler track, comprising:

a rubber crawler body shaped as an endless belt made of a rubber elastic body;

a layer comprising a plurality ~~majority~~ of steel cords embedded in said rubber crawler body;

and

metal cores ~~core metals~~ embedded in said rubber crawler body at a fixed interval in a crawler circumferential direction, each of said metal cores ~~core metals~~ comprising[[:]]

an engaging portion formed at the center in of a ~~core~~ metal core length direction;

guide protrusions for preventing wheel run-off;

wing portions, said guide protrusions and said wing portions each being formed at opposite ~~both~~ sides of the engaging portion; and

horizontal protrusions formed on ~~to~~ sides ~~side planes~~ of the ~~core~~ metal core in a width direction of the metal cores on at least one of opposite ~~the both~~ sides of said engaging portion ~~where are~~ within the a thickness of the wing portion in the a ~~core~~ metal core vertical direction and an area on the tread ~~of anti-tread side portion~~ below ~~than~~ the thickness, said horizontal protrusions facing ~~between~~ adjacent metal cores ~~core metals~~ in the crawler circumferential direction and overlapping the horizontal protrusions of adjacent metal cores within a fixed length of the ends of the horizontal protrusions ~~their~~ ends in a crawler width direction and in a crawler thickness direction[[:]],

wherein a tapered horn portion is provided on ~~to~~ an end of one of the horizontal protrusions on at least ~~protrusion of~~ one side of each ~~the adjacent~~ metal core ~~metals~~.

3. (Currently amended) A method of producing a metal core ~~metal~~ for a rubber crawler track, the metal core to be embedded in an endless belt-shaped rubber crawler body made of a rubber elastic body, said rubber crawler track including a plurality ~~majority~~ of embedded steel cords extending stratifiedly embedded at a fixed interval in a crawler circumferential direction, comprising:

forming an engaging portion at the center of said ~~core~~ metal core in a ~~core~~ metal core length direction;

forming, on opposite sides of said engaging portion, both guide protrusions for preventing wheel run-off and wing portions ~~to both sides of said engaging portion, wherein the guide protrusions~~ are shifted from a centerline of the metal core in a width direction of the metal core;

providing horizontal protrusions ~~to side planes~~ in a ~~core~~ metal core width direction on ~~of~~ at least one side ~~of the both sides~~ of said engaging portion within a thickness of the wing portion in a ~~core-metal~~ vertical direction of the metal core and an area on the tread ~~of anti-tread side portion~~ below ~~than~~ the thickness;

forming a parting plane of a mold for producing the ~~core~~ metal core so that the mold can ~~as~~ ~~to~~ be parted longitudinally in the ~~core~~ metal core width direction;

shifting said parting plane ~~laterally at~~ on the guide protrusions and ~~at the center of the core~~ ~~metal-wing portions in the~~ a direction that the guide protrusions are shifted; and

shifting trimming tapers of guide tops of the guide protrusions in the direction that the guide protrusions are shifted ~~left and right from the center of the core-metal.~~

4. (New) A metal core produced by the method of claim 3.